

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

MCKINLEY BARTELS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud McKinley Bartels for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. McKinley Bartels is an 8th grader at Everitt Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by McKinley Bartels is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to McKinley Bartels for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING THE WINTER GARDEN, TAVARES AND GULF RAILROAD DEPOT

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize Winter Garden, Tavares and Gulf Railroad Depot on the occasion of its 100th anniversary.

The railroad station, built in 1913, was purchased in 1973 for one dollar by the Central Florida chapter of the National Railway Historical Society. Located in the historic Tavares and Gulf Railroad depot, the Central Florida Railroad Museum opened in 1983. Through partnership with the Winter Garden Heritage Foundation, extensive private collections of local, state and national memorabilia have been made accessible to the public.

I commend the Winter Garden, Tavares and Gulf Railroad Depot for their preservation of the rich history of Central Florida's railways.

HONORING GIRL SCOUTS OF THE U.S.A ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR FOUNDING

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Girl Scout Day, the anniversary of founding of Girl Scouts of the United

States of America (GSUSA). On March 12th, 102 years ago, Juliette Gordon Low held the first Girl Scout meeting with the vision of empowering women through service, education, and community. The Girl Scouts have continued to build on their decorated legacy by instilling their values into the young women who will grow up to be the leaders and thinkers of future generations.

For over a century, the GSUSA has successfully spread the principles of egalitarianism through its leading role in the women's movement. The GSUSA has been at the forefront of many social justice movements as a result of its longstanding commitment to diversity and inclusion. Recently, they joined with other leaders to call attention to unfair double standards and stereotypes of women in leadership roles by launching the "Ban Bossy" campaign. I applaud the GSUSA for highlighting the workplace in this regard, and for demanding equality in all areas of society.

The 18-member organization that Juliette Gordon Low started in 1912 has seen participation of over 60 million women, including 2.3 million current active members. I thank the GSUSA for all its active involvement in Washington's 7th district and communities throughout America. I am proud to take part in Girl Scout Day, and I wish the GSUSA continued success for years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. SHIRLEY QUICK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Shirley Kenneth Quick, who regrettably passed away on March 9, 2014.

A lifelong resident of Western New York, Mr. Quick was the husband of the late Catherine Mack, and was a beloved father to his son Kevin, daughter Karen, and their respective spouses Carol and Bill. A grandfather of six, Mr. Quick is also survived by a brother and a sister.

Through my association with others who knew him well, the word I consistently hear in description of him is "gentleman." A loving and devoted husband and father, good mechanically with his hands and patient and kind with his words, Mr. Quick was a stalwart resident of neighborhoods in the Black Rock/Riverside neighborhoods of Buffalo and, in his later years, in the town of Hamburg.

Though I did not have the fortune of knowing Mr. Quick well, I am very well acquainted with his son and daughter in law, Kevin and Carol Quick of the town of Tonawanda. Kevin and Carol were devoted children to Mr. Quick and this loss must surely hit them, and their entire family, very hard. I am honored, Mr. Speaker, to have this opportunity to celebrate Mr. Quick's life with you and with our colleagues in the House, and to wish the Quick

family Godspeed as they begin this new chapter in their respective lives, confident in the understanding and knowledge of the love and support of their late patriarch. May he rest in peace.

A TRIBUTE TO CHERYL DAVIS—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Cheryl Davis of La Crescenta.

Ms. Davis was raised in San Jose and moved to Southern California to attend the University of California, Los Angeles, where she earned her Bachelor of Science in Biochemistry. Currently, Ms. Davis is a Law Firm Administrator at Bradley & Gmelich in Glendale.

Ms. Davis is very active in her community. She served as President of the Crescenta Valley Town Council for four years, and now serves as the Corresponding Secretary. Ms. Davis is the current coordinator for the Montrose-Glendale Christmas Parade, Treasurer for Prom Plus and the CV Fireworks Association, and Secretary for the Glendale Educational Foundation—Summer School. In addition, Ms. Davis is a member of CV DOGS, the volunteer group responsible for establishing the first Los Angeles County operated dog park at Crescenta Valley Park. Ms. Davis is also an avid volunteer at the Fire House Youth Center.

Ms. Davis and her husband Mark have one daughter, Katie, who is a student at Crescenta Valley High School.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Cheryl Davis.

NICOLE AHRENS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nicole Ahrens for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nicole Ahrens is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

The dedication demonstrated by Nicole Ahrens is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nicole Ahrens for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE BONHAM POST OFFICE ON ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Bonham Post Office, an historic building that has been an integral part of the Bonham community.

The Bonham Post Office, which celebrates its 100th year in March 2014, is a historical building of which the residents of Bonham are proud. Although the interior of the building has been altered to accommodate changing times, the beautiful exterior of the building with granite, large columns and stone remain today. At the time the Bonham Post Office was built, top-of-the-line materials were used to make it what many thought was the best looking building in the state of Texas. Prior to the building's opening as a working post office, it is estimated one thousand people visited the new building, which exemplifies the significance of the grand opening in 1914. The building is a reminder of the proud history of Bonham and Fannin County.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to congratulate the Bonham Post Office on 100 years of achievement. I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating this important milestone.

HONORING BELL FLAVORS & FRAGRANCES FOR BEING THE TOP EXPORTER IN ILLINOIS' TENTH DISTRICT

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor Bell Flavors & Fragrances in Northbrook, Illinois (part of the suburban Chicago district I represent) for being the top exporter in the Congressional district.

After more than 100 years of providing innovative and unique flavor services, Bell Flavors & Fragrances today is a global leader in the field and an example of true success in the 21st Century global marketplace. A family-owned company, Bell Flavors & Fragrances has achieved tremendous success in the food, hygiene, fragrance and many more industries.

Bell Flavors & Fragrances constantly reimagines and reinvents its approach and products, ensuring its ability to enter new markets and find success all around the globe.

During a recent tour of the Bell Flavors & Fragrances facility, I was struck by the passion and dedication to excellence of all the managers and employees I met and truly impressed by the outstanding commitment to research and development.

Despite its global footprint, Bell Flavors & Fragrances remains a truly American success story, embedded in the community, employing hundreds and working to enrich the area it calls home.

Family-owned and operated companies like Bell Flavors & Fragrances, rooted deeply in the community, are the foundation of the Tenth District's strength. I am proud that innovative, growing companies like Bell Flavors & Fragrances call the Tenth District home.

HONORING BYRON MEADOR

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Byron Meador. Byron is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Byron has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Byron has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Byron has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Byron constructed a set of stairs to the outdoor classroom at Hawthorne Elementary School in Kearney, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Byron Meador for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE TO BARBARA FERRIS—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Barbara Ferris of Los Feliz.

Ms. Ferris is the Managing Director of Symphony In The Glen (SIG), which she co-founded in 1994 with Arthur B. Rubinstein, a renowned film and television composer. Since the organization's founding, Ms. Ferris has fostered cooperative relationships with city agencies, managed the organization's finances, spearheaded fundraising efforts, and reviewed the day-to-day operations that

helped shape the vibrant, thematic programming that SIG audiences have come to expect. Ms. Ferris also developed SIG's pre-concert child/parent activities to introduce children to basic musical concepts such as how to play notes, how to conduct an orchestra, and how to recognize different instruments in the orchestra.

Through her work organizing free concerts with Symphony In The Glen, Ms. Ferris has been instrumental in fulfilling the organization's mission of cultivating new generations of classical music enthusiasts. Concerts were held at the Old Zoo at Griffith Park, on the lawn of the Griffith Observatory, and at the Los Angeles Zoo. This year Symphony In The Glen also coordinated the fourth annual "EEK! at The Greek," a community Halloween celebration held in collaboration with the Greek Theatre and Nederlander Concerts.

In addition to her work at SIG, Ms. Ferris is also an avid participant in civic life. She has long been involved with the Los Feliz Neighborhood Council and served a four-year term as Vice President of Administration. In 2011, Ms. Ferris was elected to the Board of the Los Feliz Improvement Association, which is the oldest residents' association in Los Angeles.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Barbara Ferris.

ROMAINE AKAKPO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Romaine Akakpo for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Romaine Akakpo is a 12th grader at Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Romaine Akakpo is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Romaine Akakpo for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVERENDS CLIVE AND RUTH KNIGHTS ON THE OCCASION OF ATTAINING AMERICAN CITIZENSHIP

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize two of our country's newest citizens, Reverends Clive and Ruth Knights. For over ten years, Clive and Ruth have been an integral part of the Northwest Florida community, and I am pleased to congratulate them on their attaining U.S. Citizenship.

Clive and Ruth were both born and raised in the United Kingdom. Reverend Clive Knights was educated at Edgware School, followed by North London and Salford Universities. He then received ministerial training from St. Alban's Diocese at Stevenage and Madingly Hall, Cambridge University, commencing his Anglican ministry on St. Matthew's Day, September 21, 1987. Reverend Ruth Knights, the daughter of a reverend, received her higher education at Southlands Teacher Training College and Birmingham University, where she majored in Divinity and Theology. Following graduation, Ruth taught Religious Studies in high school and became head of a religious studies department.

In 2003, the Lord called Reverends Clive and Ruth Knights to come to the United States. The Knights settled in Northwest Florida, where Reverend Clive Knights became Senior Pastor at Chumuckla Community Church. Reverend Ruth Knights also helped serve the community's religious needs when she joined the staff at Gulf Breeze United Methodist Church, where she currently serves as an Associate Pastor. After nearly a decade at Chumuckla Community Church, Reverend Clive Knights moved to Bagdad United Methodist Church, where he is the Senior Pastor.

As former President Theodore Roosevelt said, "Free institutions rest upon the character of citizenship." Reverends Clive and Ruth Knights exemplify the high character, leadership, and faith that have been the hallmarks of so many great American citizens. On behalf of the entire United States Congress, my wife Vicki and I congratulate Clive and Ruth and welcome them as fellow citizens of this great Nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to state that on March 4, 2014, I would have voted in favor of H. Res. 488, supporting the people of Venezuela as they protest peacefully for democracy, a reduction in violent crime and calling for an end to recent violence. I am pleased that this resolution expressing support for basic human rights passed the House decisively.

IN RECOGNITION OF BOBBY O'GUREK, RECIPIENT OF THE PANTHER VALLEY IRISH AMERICANS ASSOCIATION SHAMROCK AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Bobby O'Gurek, who on March 17, 2014 will receive the Shamrock Award from the Panther Valley Irish Americans Association. Bobby was born on St. Patrick's Day in 1982, to Robert and Patricia O'Gurek. He has lived with cerebral palsy since birth, and become an indispensable part of his community.

He graduated from Panther Valley High School in 1999, where he was named the "Most Persistent Student." Bobby went on to Lehigh County Community College, where he earned his associate's degree as a Computer Specialist with a concentration in Web Development. After college, Bobby began designing websites for S & O Computers, LLC. In 2010, he established his own web design business. To date, Bobby's company has designed and maintained 19 websites for local government offices and small businesses.

Since he was a teenager, Bobby has volunteered his time to keep his community safe as a member of the volunteer Diligence Fire Company No. 1 in Summit Hill, Pennsylvania. After joining in 1994, he is now a senior member, auditor and trustee of the Fire Company, and he contributes his technological expertise to designing and maintaining the Fire Company's web page.

Although cerebral palsy prevents him from walking and speaking on his own, Bobby is involved with many outreach programs to spread awareness about disabilities. In 1998, he started speaking via the assistance of technology at the Pittsburgh Employment conference, hosted for speech pathologists and individuals with all kinds of disabilities who use augmentative communication technologies. Bobby was selected in 2007 to receive the Edwin and Ester Prentke AAC Distinguished Lecture Award in Boston, an award presented annually to a community activist who uses a communication device. He was asked to give a speech at a Massachusetts conference entitled "My Life with Assistive Technology and Community Interactions." Bobby is also a participant of "Through Their Eyes" conference at East Stroudsburg University, where he has addressed students majoring Speech Pathology. He is also an ambassador for Prentke Romich Company, increasing knowledge across Pennsylvania about the assistive technology that helps him communicate.

Bobby O'Gurek's work throughout his life has made his community a safer and brighter place. His perseverance in overcoming cerebral palsy to get his education and start his own business, his willingness to devote his time and technological skills to serve the Panther Valley, and his refusal to let his disability prevent him from achieving his goals are nothing short of inspirational. I congratulate Bobby O'Gurek on his years of service to his community and wish him many more.

DEMANDING JUSTICE FOR GAO ZHISHENG

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I submit a piece published in the Wall Street Journal on February 27 highlighting the latest disappearance into the Chinese security system of the prominent human rights defender Gao Zhisheng. It is deeply alarming that Mr. Gao has been in and out of the Chinese prisons, disappeared, and tortured for almost a decade now. As the op-ed piece by Jared Genser, Gao's pro bono legal counsel, notes, "... no one has seen or heard from him since January 2013." Following his most recent disappearance, Gao's

courageous wife, who has testified before the Tom Lantos Human Rights Commission, filed a complaint to the United Nations, urging it to conduct an investigation into his whereabouts.

I have "adopted" Gao through the Defending Freedoms Project, an initiative of the Lantos Commission, launched in conjunction with the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and Amnesty International. I am committed to continuing work towards the day when he can breathe the fresh air of freedom. I echo the sentiments of Mr. Genser, who concluded in the Journal piece, "It is time to reunite Gao Zhisheng with his family. He and his loved ones have suffered long enough."

DEMANDING JUSTICE FOR GAO ZHISHENG

(By Jared Genser)

Gao Zhisheng, one of China's most prominent and courageous human-rights lawyers and prisoners of conscience, has again disappeared into the bowels of the Chinese state's security system. For more than a year, his family has desperately tried to access him in Shaya prison in Xinjiang, a remote province in western China. But all these efforts have been rebuffed and no one has seen or heard from him since January 2013. In response to Mr. Gao's most recent disappearance, his wife on Thursday in Geneva filed a complaint to the United Nations, urging it to conduct an investigation into his whereabouts.

A self-taught advocate and legal rights defender, Mr. Gao was once recognized among the country's top 10 lawyers by China's Ministry of Justice. Yet his advocacy for the country's most vulnerable, including factory workers, coal miners, victims of land seizures, and persecuted Christians and Falun Gong practitioners, led the authorities to target Mr. Gao and his family with threats and intimidation starting in 2005. He has been in and out of prisons and subject to disappearances and torture for nearly a decade.

Officials closed his law firm, disbarred him and placed his wife, Geng He, and their young children under 24-hour surveillance. Police stationed inside the family's home repeatedly harassed them. In school, the children were taunted and put under constant watch by the police—even when using the restroom. Because of this unbearable treatment, Geng He and her children fled China and have since been granted asylum in the United States.

Mr. Gao's family is safe now, but he remains in danger. In 2006, he made a coerced confession to "inciting subversion" and was given a suspended three-year prison term. In 2007, Chinese officials tortured him by shocking him with electric batons, holding lit cigarettes up to his eyes, and piercing his genitals with toothpicks. On other occasions, they put him in restraints and beat him repeatedly with handguns. In 2009 and 2010, police disappeared Mr. Gao and tortured him further.

In December 2011, just before the expiration of his suspended sentence and after 20 months of having been held in unknown locations, the Xinhua news agency announced that Mr. Gao would be imprisoned for the remainder of his original sentence. Since then, family members have been allowed to visit him only twice for half an hour on each occasion. Although scheduled for release on Aug. 22, he has now disappeared once again, leaving his family with renewed and urgent questions about his health and safety.

Mr. Gao's imprisonment, torture and disappearances have brought tremendous suffering to him and his family. In testifying recently before the U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs, Mr. Gao's daughter Grace

reflected on her family's insurmountable pain and loneliness. "I believe that when we speak out for my father . . . we protect our own freedom and values," she said.

Despite Mr. Gao's latest disappearance, it is hoped he is managing to endure. But hope must be accompanied by action and it is more urgent than ever that China not be allowed to disappear Gao Zhisheng again with impunity.

On Thursday, his wife lodged a complaint with the U.N. Working Group on Enforced and Involuntary Disappearances, a body of the Human Rights Council. The submission notes that Mr. Gao's family is "distracted because they have no idea whether he is even alive." It goes on to emphasize the Chinese government is violating its own laws allowing for regular family visits, written correspondence, and access to counsel.

Ms. Geng hopes the Working Group will urge the Chinese government to conduct an investigation into Mr. Gao's disappearance. Although the process itself can take many months, the Working Group has a good history of receiving specific replies from the Chinese government to its concerns. In addition, merely by highlighting Mr. Gao's disappearance publicly and triggering a U.N. inquiry, his family has put intense pressure on the Chinese government to respond. While this alone is a helpful step forward, much more needs to be done.

The international community, including the United States and United Nations, must demand proof from the Chinese government that Mr. Gao is alive and insist that his family be granted monthly access to him as is required by Chinese law. The world must urge Mr. Gao's immediate and unconditional release.

At a minimum, foreign leaders should press Beijing to release Mr. Gao on time instead of finding renewed excuses to extend his detention, as it has done in other cases. Washington must also exert pressure on the Chinese government to confirm that Mr. Gao will be provided a Chinese passport and the ability to travel to America upon his release.

It is time to reunite Gao Zhisheng with his family. He and his loved ones have suffered long enough.

A TRIBUTE TO ALICE STEERE COULOMBE—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Alice Coulombe of Pasadena.

Born and raised in Ann Arbor, Michigan, Ms. Coulombe received her Bachelor's degree in Humanities and her Master's degree in Education from Stanford University. At Stanford, she met Joe Coulombe, and they got married when both were still students at the university.

In 1958, the Coulombes founded Pronto Markets, a chain of grocery stores in Southern California. In 1967, Joe, the original Trader Joe, added a South Seas motif to the stores and changed the name to Trader Joe's. Dur-

ing this time, the Coulombes moved to San Marino, where they raised their three children, Joe, Charlotte and Madeleine, and eventually moved to Pasadena in 1983.

A community volunteer for over forty years, Ms. Coulombe is a passionate advocate for the arts and arts education. She was a founding member and former Chair of the Pasadena Arts Commission, a member of the City of Pasadena's Centennial Committee, and a docent at the Huntington Library, Art Collections and Botanical Gardens for thirty-five years, where she helped design its school tours of the Japanese Garden. As a volunteer at the Music Center of Los Angeles for three decades, Ms. Coulombe served as Chair of Music Center Presentations and Coordinator of Volunteer Activities.

Ms. Coulombe's special love is opera, and to that end, she was founding president of the Music Center Opera League, as well as one of the founders of the Los Angeles Opera Company, where she currently serves on its board. For the past nine years, she has served on the Colburn School Board of Directors as a member of their Governance Committee and as Chair of the Board Relations Committee. Additionally, she is President of Metropolitan Associates, a local non-profit that raises funds to support the arts for children. For her selfless service to supporting the arts, Ms. Coulombe received the YWCA Pasadena-Foothill Valley's Woman of Distinction Award and has been honored by the Los Angeles Master Chorale.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Alice Steere Coulombe.

SABRINA HILL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sabrina Hill for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sabrina Hill is an 8th grader at Everitt Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sabrina Hill is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sabrina Hill for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

CELEBRATING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARKET STREET MISSION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Market Street Mission located in Morris County, New Jersey, as it celebrates its 125th Anniversary.

The Market Street Mission ministers to those who suffer in the battle against alcoholism, drug abuse, and homelessness in the northern New Jersey area. The Mission provides its ministries through physical, emotional, and spiritual support that will guide those who suffer toward responsible and productive lives.

Established in 1889 by the Reverend Dr. F.W. Owen and his wife, Mrs. Louisa Graves Owen, the Market Street Mission began as a residential program for alcoholic husbands in the Morristown area. With support from the South Street Presbyterian Church, the Mission provided meals, lodging, clothing, and temporary employment for homeless men. Throughout its first decade, the Mission started support meetings and programs for the homeless and drug addicted.

In 1926, a series of explosions at the Picatinny Arsenal left many families homeless and without food or clothes. The Mission was able to help these displaced families by providing them with shelter and other basic necessities.

During the Great Depression, the Market Street Mission ended its affiliation with the Presbyterian Church and added the "Industrial Department," a self-supporting thrift store that provided jobs during difficult economic times.

Today, residents of the Mission continue to work at the Industrial Department as part of the successful "New Reality of Recovery" program, as well as attend chapel and classes. The Market Street Mission has added an Emergency Assistance program that provides meals and lodging for disadvantaged men, women, and children. In addition to its growing development throughout the years, the Mission continues to focus on alcohol and drug treatment programs, incorporating new treatments each year.

The Market Street Mission is proud to celebrate its history and looks forward to its continuous growth in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Market Street Mission and their dedicated employees as they celebrate 125 years of serving the northern New Jersey community.

THE NEED FOR REFOCUSING AMERICAN HUMANITARIAN AID IN SYRIA

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mark the third anniversary of the ongoing conflict in Syria. As the war stretches into its fourth year and the regional humanitarian crisis shows little signs of improvement,

the United States must do more to ensure that its aid is utilized to the greatest effect possible.

According to the Syrian Observatory for Human Rights, more than 140,000 people, including 7,000 children, have been killed. Nearly 2.5 million refugees have fled to neighboring countries, including 1.2 million children. Within Syria, nearly seven million people have been displaced from their homes and 19 million are in need of emergency food support. It is projected that by the end of this year, 75 percent of the Syrian population will need humanitarian assistance.

The civilian population inside Syria faces systematic starvation, shelling of residential neighborhoods, government use of chemical weapons, and threats from improvised barrel-bombs filled with explosives and dropped by military helicopters into residential areas.

In the dozens of refugee camps now surrounding Syria, food remains scarce, access to sanitation and clean water is limited, and diseases like polio—on the verge of eradication worldwide—have resurfaced.

The United States has rightly pledged and contributed a combined \$1.7 billion in humanitarian assistance since the start of the crisis. These funds are critical for the Syrian people caught in the middle of the conflict. Their survival, and indeed the future stability of the region, hangs in the balance. As a leader in the international community, we must ensure that these funds are used efficiently and distributed in a manner that reaches as many people as possible.

I recently heard a story about a school in the Aleppo Province that continued to hold classes despite the war raging around it. When the school's funding inevitably ran out—and with international aid not immediately available—extremists in the area also fighting the Assad regime came forward with the resources that the school needed. In return, they demanded that the school dispose of its moderate textbooks for more politically-charged texts, and required the teaching of the Koran.

Accepting assistance from extremist groups in exchange for loyalty is a decision faced by Syrians on a daily basis. For most civilians, the radical views expressed by the extremists are not in line with their own moderate views. Many are simply trying to carry on with their lives.

Organizations like the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) have had considerable success in distributing school materials, food, medical supplies, and vaccines. However, Syria is a war zone, and these large-scale operations are often not equipped to distribute materials and aid at the local level—like the school in Aleppo—where they are needed most.

But, imagine if these organizations could know which schools had exhausted their resources, which hospitals were in immediate danger of running out of supplies, and which neighborhoods were being most affected by the lack of incoming food relief. Making this process more efficient is no small task, but it is possible. If we are to avoid greater catastrophe in Syria, it is also necessary.

Since the beginning of the Syrian conflict, I have urged Congress and the President's administration to increase cooperation with Syrian non-government organizations (NGOs) to get aid where it needs to go. Increased engagement with Syrian and Syrian-run groups

is essential to expanding assistance inside Syria and making every dollar of foreign aid count. Syrian aid groups are now working in nearly every sector of the humanitarian response, delivering flour to bakeries, medical supplies to field clinics, and helping to protect refugees.

Already, USAID and other NGOs in the region rely on information and distribution networks of local aid groups to deliver supplies to areas most in need. Empowering these Syrian groups will make our impact on the region even greater. These groups have the most at stake and work at great personal expense and risk.

The Department of State and USAID should work together to establish training, capacity building, and aid delivery partnerships with Syrian relief organizations in order to expand their operations. With proper oversight and strict training on the international standards governing the delivery of aid, the United States can enable hundreds of Syrian civilians to take greater control of their country's future while assisting those inside Syria who are not reachable by other means.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has shown leadership in providing aid for the humanitarian crisis in Syria, but we must do more with the international community and Syrian refugee host nations to improve our aid delivery systems while pressuring the Assad regime and its supporters. As the war drags on with no end in sight, time is in fact running out.

COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM/UI EXTENSION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Congressional Women's Working Group on Immigration Reform I rise to support the women in my district and around the country who are fasting for a vote on reform legislation.

Mr. Speaker, our system has been broken for far too long and now is the time to fix it.

Every day hardworking women all over America are living in fear that they will be separated from their family. They have been systematically left out of the programs that their tax dollars help support.

That is why I am proud to have joined Congresswoman MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM to introduce the HEAL Act that would guarantee access to safety net programs like Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program.

Mr. Speaker, instead of bringing up bills to create jobs and grow the economy, Republicans continue to play political games—bringing up GOP message bills to nowhere.

It is time to pass comprehensive immigration reform. It is time to pass an extension of Unemployment Insurance.

We have the votes. Let's do it now.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD F. CROSSIN, RECIPIENT OF 2014 THE GREATER WILKES-BARRE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of Richard "Rich" F. Crossin, who on March 14, 2014 will receive the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year award. Each year the Friendly Sons recognizes a person who has distinguished themselves in the community through hard work and charitable efforts, and Rich Crossin is an exemplary selection.

Mr. Crossin is the son of Ann and the late Joseph Crossin and a resident of Kingston, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Bishop O'Reilly High School, and continued his education at York College, where he received his Bachelor of Science in Business Administration in 1978.

Rich has spent much of his career at Bonner Chevrolet, Inc., which was started by his grandfather, John R. Bonner, in 1932. Rich now serves as President of the family business and works alongside his brothers Joe, Tom and Paul. In the past 35 years, Bonner Chevrolet has grown to be one of the largest new and used automobile inventories in the area, under Rich's leadership.

Along with being a leader in the business community, Rich has also been a pillar of his local service community. He served as president of the West Side Jaycees and has also worked with Big Brothers Big Sisters for several years, helping the group mentor many disadvantaged youth.

Rich and his wife Virginia have three children—Andrew, Julia, and Elizabeth—all of whom currently attend high school. Andrew, a senior at Holy Redeemer High School, is a member of the golf team which competed and won the State Championship title. Rich's daughters Julia and Elizabeth both attend Wyoming Valley High School, and were longtime dancers with the Emerald Isle Step Dancers and had the opportunity to dance in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in New York City.

Northeastern Pennsylvania is stronger as a community because of citizens like Rich Crossin, and I am proud to recognize his life's contributions.

A TRIBUTE TO NADINE TRUJILLO—28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Nadine Trujillo of Silver Lake.

Ms. Trujillo has lived in Los Angeles since 1956. In 1993, Ms. Trujillo launched her own business and opened a Mexican restaurant. She is the proud owner and operator of the Alegria on Sunset, where she also serves as its Executive Chef, and can still be found cooking for the daily lunch crowd in addition to fulfilling her CEO duties.

Ms. Trujillo first got involved in her community by providing local schools, charitable organizations and churches with discounted menus for teachers as well as donations to school events. She has continued to give back by volunteering her time and sharing her knowledge of catering and event planning. She has organized Hollywood Sunset Free Clinic's annual fundraisers and continues to support HSFC by providing pozole to over two hundred "Pilgrims" in the annual observance of the traditional Mexican Christmas Posada.

In 2010, Ms. Trujillo joined the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council after she completed Level One Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. She has served as Co-Chair of the Public Safety Committee and today serves as an at large board member. Ms. Trujillo organized the first annual "September is National Preparedness Month" Expo. Ms. Trujillo and her two daughters are residents of Silver Lake.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Nadine Trujillo.

SAYRA ARANA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sayra Arana for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sayra Arana is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sayra Arana is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sayra Arana for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THEO ROGERS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Theo Rogers. Theo is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 125, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Theo has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Theo has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Theo has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Theo built fire pits for a church camp in Far West, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Theo Rogers for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, on March 12, 2014 I was unavoidably detained for roll call votes 120–124. Had I been present, this is how I would have voted: on rollcall vote 120: Conyers of Michigan Amendment, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote 121: Nadler of New York Amendment, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote 122: Jackson Lee of Texas Amendment, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote 123: Democratic Motion to Recommit, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall vote 124: Final Passage of H.R. 4138, Executive Needs to Faithfully Observe and Respect Congressional Enactments of the Law Act of 2014, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, from March 4 through 6, 2014, I was absent from the House due to a sudden, unfortunate family matter and missed rollcall Votes 93 through 114. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall votes 95, 96, 97, 98, 102, 103, 104, 105, 108, 110, 111, 112, and 114. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall votes 93, 94, 99, 100, 101, 106, 107, 109, and 113.

ON THE BIRTH OF MARY PARKER DEPASS

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate Emily and William Brunson DePass, III, on the birth of their new baby girl. Mary Parker DePass was born at 2:46 p.m. on March 8, 2014 weighing 7 pounds, 6 ounces and measuring 20 and 1/2 inches long.

Mary joins a wonderful family who is devoted to her well-being and bright future. Grandparents Mrs. and Mrs. William B. (Rusty) DePass, Jr., Mrs. Jane Arnold Barnhill, and Mr. Edward D. Barnhill, Jr., are thrilled

with the new addition. I would also like to congratulate Mary's three great-grandmothers, Mrs. Marshall J. Parker, Mrs. Ira Lee Arnold, and Mrs. Edward D. Barnhill, along with the late Mrs. Kathryn Macaulay DePass, who are all extraordinary role models for their dear great-granddaughter.

A TRIBUTE TO SONIA TATULIAN— 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Sonia Tatulian of Tujunga.

Born in Armenia, Ms. Tatulian and her family immigrated to the United States in 1974 when she was a teenager. While attending Hollywood High School, she went to work in a Beverly Hills bridal shop doing a variety of jobs, including pressing, altering, and selling wedding gowns. This began her career in the retail industry, which would go on to span two decades.

In 1989, Ms. Tatulian bought her home in Tujunga, and soon after she obtained her real estate license and began a part-time flower business. After changing careers for a position with Wells Fargo, Ms. Tatulian realized she wanted to help businesses and become more involved in her community. She was able to fulfill this aspiration once she started her new position as Manager at the Sunland Bank of America. Ms. Tatulian then became a member of the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce, Sunland-Tujunga Rotary Club and the Sunland-Tujunga Lions Club. She served as President of the Sunland-Tujunga Chamber of Commerce and increased membership from 63 to 175 members, all while being the Treasurer of the Rotary and Lions Clubs.

Ms. Tatulian also founded the non-profit organization, the Sunland-Tujunga-Shadow Hills Community Fund, which is the parent company of Voice of the Village, a local newspaper. The Fund took over the organization of the annual Fourth of July Fireworks event, with the proceeds and matching grants going to Verdugo Hills High School programs. Proceeds from the newspaper support the high school's journalism class. Recently, Ms. Tatulian founded the "Welcome to the Foot-hills" company, a free service where she visits new home owners, welcomes them and provides them with important information about the community. In addition, she volunteers with the Verdugo Hills Family YMCA.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Sonia Tatulian.

NAYELI LYNCH-BOLANOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos is a 7th grader at Wayne Carle Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nayeli Lynch-Bolanos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING RUSSELL A.
MITTERMEIER, CARL SAFINA,
AND PATRICIA C. WRIGHT

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise to congratulate Stony Brook University and its faculty for an unprecedented achievement. Three of the six finalists for the prestigious Indianapolis Prize, the world's leading award for animal conservation, are members of Stony Brook's faculty.

This is the first time that one university has had three finalists for the award given by the Indianapolis Zoo for "extraordinary contributions to conservation efforts." All three professors, Russell A. Mittermeier, Carl Safina, and Patricia C. Wright, hold Ph.D.s and have made major contributions to science. Their selection as finalists for this coveted award reflects the excellence and dedication of Stony Brook's faculty and brings honor to all of Long Island.

Dr. Mittermeier is president of Conservation International and has worked to preserve primates and turtles in South America, Madagascar and other places. He has used the concept of biodiversity "hotspots" to focus conservation efforts and raise \$1 billion for endangered habitats. He has an adjunct research appointment in the Department of Anatomical Sciences.

Dr. Safina co-founded Blue Ocean Institute to raise awareness of threats to the world's oceans and inspire solutions to these dangers. He is a research professor in Stony Brook's School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences. Episodes of his show "Saving the Ocean with Carl Safina" aired nationwide on PBS in 2012.

Dr. Wright discovered a new species of lemur, the golden bamboo lemur, while working in Madagascar in 1986. She also rediscovered another species which had been considered extinct. Her efforts helped establish

the Ranomafana National Park in Madagascar which she believes has saved three species of lemur from extinction. She is a professor of anthropology at Stony Brook.

It is not surprising that these three eminent conservation pioneers have been tapped for international recognition. Their ongoing efforts have helped save our planet and its species from degradation. They are committed and passionate about their research. It is through the efforts of people like these who are able to inspire others to see the importance of conservation that our oceans, our endangered species and biodiversity of our plant will be preserved.

Indeed, these three professors and their tremendous achievements are most worthy of our recognition and of the Indianapolis Prize. They are representative of the pursuit of excellence and world-class research capabilities that define Stony Brook's reputation as a global leader in innovation and scientific breakthroughs. With this achievement, the professors take their place with Stony Brook University as the pride of Long Island and an example for aspiring scientists to follow.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of New York's first congressional district, I would like to thank Professors Mittermeier, Safina, and Wright for the vital work they are doing. The fact that they are all members of Stony Brook faculty is yet another measure of the quality of this fine university.

HONORING SID REYES**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sid Reyes. Sid is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sid has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sid has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Sid has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Sid completed necessary maintenance on the outdoor classroom at Hawthorne Elementary School in Kearney, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sid Reyes for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING NEVADA 150**HON. JOSEPH J. HECK**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. HECK of Nevada. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to mark the beginning of Nevada's journey to becoming the 36th State admitted to the Union.

Many know the story of the Nevada constitution being sent to Washington via the newly-invented telegraph machine to expedite our admission to the Union in late October of 1864. But a lesser known—though not less important—event in our state's history will celebrate its 150th anniversary next week.

On March 21, 2014—next Friday—it will have been one hundred and fifty years since this body voted to allow the People of the Territory of Nevada to form a Constitution and State Government for the purpose of admission into the Union.

Nevada's constitutional convention began on the fourth of July, 1864.

Among the first words of our constitution were the absolute prohibition of slavery, freedom of religious worship, and one issue very near to the work of Nevada's current Congressional delegation, the ownership status of the land.

The convention adjourned July 28 having laid the foundation for Nevada's admission to the Union and our future governance.

Voters of the territory approved the Constitution the first week of September, paving the way for Abraham Lincoln to admit Nevada as the 36th State on October 31, 1864.

But all of these events were set in motion by a bill approved in this very Chamber, Mr. Speaker. Without this critical first step, the journey to statehood would not have been possible.

I'm proud to call the Battle Born State home and join with Nevadans from Elko to Laughlin in celebrating the sesquicentennial of March 21, 1864.

CONGRATULATING THE CORNING AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce on its 100th anniversary. Over the past 100 years, the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce has successfully provided small businesses and local entrepreneurs with the resources, expertise and advice needed to succeed.

The Corning community is stronger and more vibrant because of the Chamber. The Chamber has proven to be an invaluable resource in promoting business in our community through a powerful, united voice—a voice that successfully advances opportunities for growth time and time again. Due to the Chamber's unrelenting work in promoting and assisting commerce, local businesses continue to provide well-paying jobs and high-quality products and services to our region.

In addition to helping establish businesses, the Chamber has a strong history of providing grants to organizations that assist local entrepreneurs in starting new businesses in Corning. The Chamber continues to give Corning citizens the tools necessary to succeed.

Once again I wish to congratulate the Corning Area Chamber of Commerce on 100 successful years of service and wish them another hundred prosperous years in the beautiful city we call home.

A TRIBUTE TO SHELLI-ANNE
COUCH—28TH CONGRESSIONAL
DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Shelli-Anne Couch of Atwater Village.

As President of Friends of Atwater Elementary, Ms. Couch has led the turnaround of this Title I public elementary school, bringing new life to the volunteer support group which serves nearly 400 families in the Atwater Village area. She found innovative ways to generate new revenue streams, raised over \$100,000 in support of enrichment, educational and capital improvement programs for Atwater Avenue Elementary School, and created strategic partnerships with local, national and international businesses, non-profit organizations and individuals. Ms. Couch has founded and produced many events and programs that support the elementary school, including the First Annual Day of the Dead Festival with celebrity chef Curtis Stone which drew close to one thousand attendees and raised a substantial amount of money for the school.

Ms. Couch also formed a partnership with executives from Paul Mitchell Hair Products and Enrich LA to sponsor the school's first outdoor classroom program, which provides free tuition for students to learn how to make healthy life choices by gardening, eating seasonal produce, and composting. She also led the effort for school uniforms and created a "Care Closet" for families in need. In addition, she forged partnerships between the school and local organizations such as the Northland Village Church, which provides free weekly tutoring called "Homework Helpers," and the local Lions Club, which provides scholarships and free eye tests to students.

Prior to her dedicated volunteer work in Atwater Village, Ms. Couch was an international business and media executive with over twenty-five years of experience transforming how companies and people build their commerce, content and community, guiding clients like Universal Studios, Diane Von Furstenberg, and the Australian Consulate. She co-founded Billion Dollar Babes, the world's first global designer fashion sales event. Her agency's showrooms in Los Angeles, New York and London pioneered celebrity dressing and editorial placement. An award-winning journalist, Ms. Couch, who moved from her native Australia to Los Angeles in 1997, has been featured in magazines and newspapers such as *Vogue*, *The New York Times*, *The LA Times*, and *People*, and on the television show, *Good Morning America*.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Shelli-Anne Couch.

NICOLE PAPPADAKIS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nicole Pappadakis for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nicole Pappadakis is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Nicole Pappadakis is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Nicole Pappadakis for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 116, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, due to attending a previously scheduled meeting at the White House with President Obama, I was absent from votes in the House on Wednesday afternoon (March 12) and missed rollcall votes 1201-124. Had I been present, I would have voted: "yea" on rollcall No. 120 (Conyers amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 121 (Nadler amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 122 (Jackson-Lee amendment); "yea" on rollcall No. 123 (Motion to Recommit H.R. 4138 with Instructions); and "nay" on rollcall No. 124 (final passage of H.R. 4138, the ENFORCE the Law Act).

TRIBUTE TO JAMES C. DOWDLE

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, on February 17th, we lost an extraordinary American with the passing of James C. Dowdle, who was 79. I rise today to do something a bit out of character. As many folks know, I am a proud University of Michigan Wolverine. Jim, on the

other hand, was a Notre Dame grad. In the Midwest, the Wolverines and Fighting Irish mix, at least in athletics, about as well as the Hatfields and McCoys. In fact, Jim was a physically gifted athlete who played basketball for the Irish. It takes a special individual for me to put aside a rivalry that runs that deep. Jim Dowdle was that unique.

I got to know Jim on a professional level. He was hired by Tribune Company in Chicago in the early 1980s to head its broadcast operations until his retirement in 1999. Tribune Company remains the largest media company headquartered in the Midwest. Of particular interest to me, Jim engineered the Tribune's purchase of the Chicago Cubs from the Wrigley family. As a lifelong, diehard Cubs fan, Jim and I agonized over the team's progress many an afternoon at Wrigley Field. Jim also persuaded legendary Hall of Fame broadcaster Harry Caray to be the Cubs' play-by-play announcer on Tribune's WGN-TV. That powerful combination spread WGN's telecasts throughout the land as cable systems and home satellites grew WGN into a national superstation. What makes the story even more remarkable is that Jim was a proud Irish-American son of Chicago's Southside, that sliver of greater Chicagoland where your allegiance is to the White Sox and whatever team is playing the Cubs. Jim used to say, "Thank God my father is buried in Calvary Cemetery. If he knew I bought the Cubs, I'm not sure he would talk to me." Over the years, Jim gambled on the future of television—investing in little-known cable channels such as the Food Network and others, adding to Tribune's broadcast station holdings, the value of which is now in the billions.

Jim Dowdle's family and civic legacy is just as remarkable. He married his beloved Sally Sayers in 1956 shortly after graduating from Notre Dame. To all, they are known as Honey and Doods. He was the father of five and grandfather of eighteen. At his funeral Mass, nine handsome grandsons, all at least six foot two, dressed in suits and Kelly green ties, served as pallbearers. At the altar, two Catholic monsignors, twelve priests and his godson (a deacon) celebrated his Mass before as many as 1,500 mourners—a powerful, visible testament to a life well led.

Long before I got to know him, Jim had conquered alcohol addiction. For decades, he counseled countless others, often complete strangers. When the word spread that Jim was nearing death, the family received numerous calls and messages from people who wanted them to know how Jim Dowdle had impacted them—saving careers, marriages, and lives. Without those unsolicited testimonials, no one would have known.

A former Marine lieutenant, years later, Jim received the Marine Corps' Semper Fidelis Award. He also received the broadcast industry's highest honor, the National Association of Broadcasters' Distinguished Service Award, as well as the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences' Trustee Award and induction into the Broadcasting and Cable Hall of Fame. A devout Catholic, Jim was a director of Mundelein Seminary's Board of Advisors and Big Shoulders Fund. He served as a former board chairman of Junior Achievement of Chicago, director of Loyola University's Health Systems, director of Robert R. McCormick Foundation, director of Hazelden Chicago, and trustee of Chicago's Museum of

Science and Industry. I mention these. There are more.

Throughout his remarkable life, Jim Dowdle never lost the common touch. He stayed humble. He volunteered. He served. He gave. He never forgot what is truly important in life. I think the Marine's motto aptly describes the great man: "Semper Fidelis!" Always Faithful! It was my great privilege to know him and my honor to pay tribute. God bless Jim Dowdle.

RECOGNIZING LORIN LEWIS AS
THE 2014 OKALOOSA COUNTY,
FLORIDA EDUCATIONAL SUP-
PORT PERSON OF THE YEAR

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Lorin Lewis as the 2014 Okaloosa County Educational Support Person of the Year. For over six years, Mrs. Lewis has served the students and community of Okaloosa County, and I am pleased to honor her achievements.

A product of the Okaloosa County School District, Mrs. Lewis was born and raised in Crestview, Florida. Upon graduating from Crestview High School in 2005, she began studying at Northwest Florida State College. The following year, she began her professional career in the Okaloosa County School District as a classroom assistant at a Department of Juvenile Justice facility. It was in this capacity that Mrs. Lewis developed a passion for working with at-risk youth. The patience and compassion she exerted enabled her to inspire and positively impact the lives of some of the most vulnerable, despite the rigors of the challenging environment.

Her love for bettering the lives of students continued to grow, and in 2011, she joined the faculty at Pryor Middle School as the Discipline Secretary. She became the Bookkeeper in 2012, where she continues her supporting role at the school. In addition to her strong faith, Mrs. Lewis credits her success and achievements to the support provided by her colleagues. It is her dedication and commitment to excellence, however, that has proven her to be an invaluable asset to the Okaloosa County School District and has earned her the title of Educational Support Person of the Year.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Lorin Lewis and her great achievements. My wife Vicki joins me in congratulating Mrs. Lewis and her husband, Bryan, and we wish them all the best for continued success.

A TRIBUTE TO MARTHA BURNS—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is

an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Martha Burns of La Cañada Flintridge.

Ms. Burns was born and raised in Minnesota. She obtained her degree in Mathematics from Colorado College, where she joined Kappa Alpha Theta, a sorority she continues to be active. After graduation, she worked as a Financial Analyst at General Mills in Minneapolis. Seven years later, she moved back to Colorado Springs, where she met and married Tom Burns while both were working for Burroughs Corp. In 1979, a job transfer moved the family to Glendale, and in 1981 they purchased a home in La Cañada Flintridge. Ms. Burns wasted no time in joining the La Cañada Flintridge Newcomers Club and the La Cañada Junior Women's Club.

As a young mother, Ms. Burns served as President and Treasurer of the La Cañada Elementary School Parent Teacher Association (PTA). She has also served in various positions with La Cañada High School's PTA and Cañada Council of PTA. Ms. Burns has also volunteered as a Leader and Den Mother for Campfire Girls and Cub Scouts, a Team Mom for American Youth Soccer Organization (AYSO), and as a "Classroom Mother."

Well-known in the area for her accounting and computing skills, Ms. Burns has volunteered her services to numerous service groups and businesses. She was the first woman to lead the softball arm of the La Cañada Jr. Baseball/Softball Association, for which she also served as Treasurer. She is an active member Assistance League of Flintridge (ALF) and previously served as Chairperson of the Summer School Program, Summer School Treasurer, Computer Chair, and Treasurer of ALF's Auxiliary. She was also the Treasurer of the Board of Directors of the La Cañada Flintridge Educational Foundation, the La Cañada Flintridge Chamber of Commerce, and the La Cañada-AM Kiwanis Club. Ms. Burns modernized the bookkeeping system for La Cañada Congregational and St. George's Episcopal Churches and their pre-schools. She has also developed database and accounting systems for the Community Center of La Cañada Flintridge and its pre-school. An avid animal lover, Ms. Burns has volunteered as a bookkeeper for the Recycled Pets Rescue Organization and as Treasurer for the Pasadena Animal League, an auxiliary of the Pasadena Humane Society. Ms. Burns also received a La Cañada Council of PTA Service Award and a La Cañada Flintridge Coordinating Council Les Tupper Community Service Award.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Martha Burns.

ROSELINE MUGARUKA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Roseline Mugaruka for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Roseline Mugaruka is a 12th grader at

Standley Lake High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Roseline Mugaruka is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Roseline Mugaruka for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION OF CHARLES J.
GRIMES, RECIPIENT OF THE 2014
GREATER PITTSBURGH AREA
FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK
SWINGLE AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of Charles J. Grimes, who on March 17, 2014, will receive the Swingle Award from the Greater Pittsburgh Area Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Charles J. Grimes was born in Plymouth, Pennsylvania on November 9, 1946 to Joseph and Helen Grimes. He attended St. Vincent's Catholic School and Plymouth High School. After school, Charlie began his career in 1970 as a Driver and Sales Representative with Freedman Express. He later went on to work for Conway Freight for 15 years.

Charlie has dedicated himself to membership and leadership roles in multiple charitable organizations. He currently serves as a sustaining Fourth Degree member of the President John F. Kennedy Council 372 Knights of Columbus, and previously served as the Grand Knight. He is also a member and past President of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. Charlie also volunteers with Meals on Wheels of Greater Pittsburgh and the Salvation Army.

Charlie now resides in Jenkins Township with his wife, Rose Ferentino Grimes. He and his wife have six children and thirteen grandchildren, of which they are extremely proud.

It is a great honor to congratulate Charles J. Grimes on this award to commemorate his dedication to charity and community service. Charlie is a tribute to the Pittsburgh area, and I thank him for his many valuable contributions to the public good.

HONORING THE JUDGE ADVOCATE
GENERAL OF THE UNITED
STATES AIR FORCE, LIEUTEN-
ANT GENERAL RICHARD C. HAR-
DING

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant General Richard C.

Harding, who is retiring after thirty-four years of accomplished and distinguished military service. Throughout his career as a senior officer, General Harding has provided invaluable testimony and advice to this body and in particular to the Armed Services Committee. Specifically, General Harding has provided his expert military advice on a wide range of defense and national security issues and especially on the workings of the military justice system in relation to the sexual assault crisis in which the military finds itself. I think I speak for all of my colleagues on the Armed Services Committee when I say that his depth of knowledge, outstanding leadership and professionalism, and deep respect and consideration for all of our men and women in uniform will be greatly missed.

The son of an Air Force officer and grandson of a Naval officer, General Harding entered the Air Force with a direct commission in 1980 after receiving his Bachelor of Science degree and Juris Doctor degree from the University of Arkansas. Over the course of his career, General Harding served six tours as a staff judge advocate at the unified command, major command, numbered air force and wing levels. He also served in a variety of staff positions at Headquarters Air Force and as the Deputy Chief Counsel for U.S. Transportation Command. Before serving as The Judge Advocate General (TJAG) General Harding was the Commander of the Air Force Legal Operations Agency.

During his tenure as TJAG, General Harding led the Air Force Judge Advocate General's Corps during one of the most turbulent periods in military law and most challenging budget crises in history. He innovatively orchestrated the creation and implementation of the Federal Government's first-ever Special Victims' Counsel Program, ensuring legal representation for victims of sexual assault. This Program was subsequently adopted by the Secretary of Defense and implemented across the Department of Defense.

Additionally, General Harding's focused processing initiatives revitalized the military justice system by drastically reducing court-martial processing times. He also resurrected the publication of the Air Force's standards of professional conduct by leading the drafting, coordinating, and publishing of the first-ever, Air Force Instruction 1-1, Air Force Standards, and he keenly consolidated the Judge Advocate and Inspector General inspection processes by creating a single two-tiered evaluation system to standardize and improve the delivery of legal services. Finally, General Harding astutely guided the Air Force through one of the most challenging budget crises in history by providing sage legal support for multiple manpower and personnel reductions, headquarters reorganizations, and field operating agency consolidations.

Through my role as Member of the Armed Services Committee I have had the pleasure of working directly with General Harding during this time. He has faithfully executed his oath of office and constitutional duties as the top uniformed military lawyer for the United States Air Force and provided this committee and congress with honest, direct, and sound advice. He will leave a lasting legacy on our Armed Forces.

For thirty-four years General Harding has performed his job professionally, honestly, and with great dedication. We will miss his leader-

ship and vision, and wish him all the best as he retires from active duty service to our nation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ERNEST J. REYES

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of our friend Ernest J. Reyes who passed away recently at the age of 73. Though Mr. Reyes is sorely missed by friends and family, I know his legacy will endure. He had an illustrious career and was a passionate, hard-working advocate.

Mr. Reyes, a native of Madera, CA, was dedicated to the California real estate community. He was a licensed broker since 1972, served on the San Diego Real Estate Board, and founded Network Realty, a real estate brokerage firm. He also tapped into his knowledge of the real estate market to help families thrive and realize the American dream of homeownership. He co-founded the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals. Under his leadership, NAHREP has become "The Voice for Hispanic Real Estate" and proud champions of homeownership for the Hispanic community." Mr. Reyes was also Chairman of the San Diego Home Loan Counseling Center, a non-profit serving low and moderate-income families through economic literacy education.

Additionally, Mr. Reyes was an exceptional public servant. He was a member of the Hollister Elementary School District Board and served as Secretary. And in 1976, the California Senate Rules Committee appointed Mr. Reyes to serve on the Employment Services Board. He was also appointed by the U.S. Small Business Administration's Administrator Karen G. Mills to Chair the Regulatory Fairness Board, Region IX. And notably, Mr. Reyes served on the staff of the Honorable Leon E. Panetta while he was in Congress.

I extend my sincerest condolences to his wife of 50 years, Patricia Pedregon Reyes, along with his children, Denise Johnson and Daren Reyes, and his three grandchildren. Mr. Reyes was an inspiration and I know his loss will be felt by many, including the 29th Congressional District.

AMOS RUTHERFORD

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Amos Rutherford on his 100th birthday, which he celebrates today, March 14th, 2014.

Mr. Rutherford is an exemplary citizen and lifelong resident of Caldwell County. Born in Morganton in 1914, Mr. Rutherford joined the military in 1942. As a medical aidman in World War II, Mr. Rutherford was awarded a Good Conduct Medal, American Theatre Service Medal, and a Victory Medal. These awards reflect Mr. Rutherford's character and the incredible size of his heart.

Returning to Morganton in 1946, Mr. Rutherford worked for Mullis Motor Company, and then spent 30 years at the Esso Exxon station in Lenior. I am proud to honor Mr. Rutherford today, as he has shown time and again an unwavering commitment to our district.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the entire 11th District of North Carolina, I congratulate Mr. Rutherford on his milestone 100th birthday and thank him for his service to Western North Carolina and to our nation.

A TRIBUTE TO ALEXANDRA HELFRICH—28TH CONGRES- SIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Alexandra Helfrich of Burbank.

When her eldest daughter began elementary school, Ms. Helfrich learned that the school did not have any arts programs. She began to fundraise and sought out grant opportunities to bring arts education back into the classroom. Ms. Helfrich worked with other parents, the PTA and Booster organizations to provide opportunities so every Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) student could experience music, visual art, theater, dance, and media arts. Through these collaborations, art programs became available at schools during the school day and after school as well.

Ms. Helfrich has served as a member of the Board of Directors for the Burbank Arts For All Foundation since 2007 and served as its co-chair from 2010 to 2013. The Burbank Arts For All Foundation works to ensure every student in Burbank public schools receives a quality arts education as a part of their core curriculum. To support the foundation's mission, Ms. Helfrich continues to serve on its Executive Committee. Ms. Helfrich's volunteer efforts have provided opportunities as well as increased access for children to become creative learners.

Ms. Helfrich has also served the Burbank Unified School District as a parent representative to the District Safety Committee, where she helped update the Special Education Parent Handbook. She is currently serving on the District Local Control Accountability Plan Committee. In addition, Ms. Helfrich, who is a committed school fundraiser, has consistently served on Booster Club Boards since 2007.

Ms. Helfrich is married to Mark Helfrich, a feature film editor and director, and they have two teenage daughters.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Alexandra Helfrich.

SERGIO MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sergio Martinez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Sergio Martinez is an 8th grader at Wheat Ridge 5-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sergio Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sergio Martinez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO JORGE PAVEZ
HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to a dear friend of mine, Jorge Pavez. Jorge passed away on Saturday, March 8, 2014. Riverside County has been fortunate to have community members whose personal stories have contributed immensely to the rich history of Southern California. Jorge Pavez was one of these individuals. He was truly the definition of the American Dream fulfilled and served as an incredible inspiration to those around him. A resident of Corona for over 40 years, Jorge was a pillar of the community and will be deeply missed.

The story of Jorge's incredible life began in 1963 when he boarded a plane in his home nation of Chile, with a one way ticket to Miami. He wasn't sure what the United States of America would hold for him, but was ready to tackle any challenge that came his way. With only \$150 in his pocket upon arrival, success proved distant. He struggled without any knowledge of the English language and just a small bed at the local YMCA that ran him \$5 a night. After a series of unfortunate events, Jorge decided to head west to California by driving a Buick convertible there for its owner.

Jorge, who was still learning English and developing his skills, was not discouraged by the tough job market, and eventually landed a job as a parking attendant in Santa Monica. He was soon transferred to another parking lot, and the move proved to be a testament to fate, when he met his future wife, Joyce, who worked in management there. She became responsible for helping him learn English when she gave him a book to assist in the process. With the love and support of Joyce, proven hard work at the parking lot, and a new knowledge of the English language, a neighborhood insurance agent took notice of Jorge's natural work ethic and decided to give him a chance

with a job. Insurance was not an industry Jorge had come to know while growing up in South America, so while he was initially skeptical, he ultimately proved to be a natural at selling policies after a few short weeks of getting accustomed to the nature of the business.

Following a tragic event in the community where an insurance policy had a real impact, Jorge became a believer in the industry and developed a passion for the craft. This would ultimately be the beginning of a long and successful career. After starting his own agency, CPI Financial & Insurance Services, in two locations and acquiring another agency all within a matter of 10 years, Jorge became one of the preeminent insurance agents in the Inland Empire.

Through all of his success, Jorge remained committed to helping others fulfill their "American Dream." By promoting employment opportunities within his insurance companies, he has been able to help others looking for a chance to achieve their own form of success. From moving to the country virtually penniless, to being responsible for creating economic growth for many in the Inland Empire, Jorge proved that it is possible to accomplish your goals with a lot of hard work and dedication. On March 14, 2014, Jorge would have celebrated his 50th Anniversary in the United States of America.

On March 20, 2014, a memorial honoring Jorge's extraordinary life will be held. He is survived by his loving wife and children. Jorge will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication is a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Jorge's family and friends; although Jorge may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

HONORING ELIZABETH BIESTER**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, Elizabeth Biester is a Bucks County woman who has made a difference in the global and local community with years of leadership, social advocacy, and volunteerism. She is being honored with the March 2014 Bucks County Women's History Month Award. As a volunteer, she has made an indelible imprint on our community and beyond.

Elizabeth Biester has advocated on behalf of the children of the world who were abandoned, orphaned, or experienced discrimination through her work with the Pearl S. Buck Foundation/Pearl S. Buck International and Welcome House.

The local organizations in which she has also tirelessly contributed include: American Red Cross, Network of Victim Assistance, Teachers for Tomorrow, League of Women Voters, YWCA of Bucks County and the Bucks County Symphony.

We recognize a dedicated woman of integrity and generous spirit who brings heart felt compassion to her endeavors. As we also acknowledge the impact she has had on many lives, we are grateful to Elizabeth Biester for setting an example of service and social advocacy for others to follow.

HONORING JORDAN
FOTHERINGHAM**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jordan Fotheringham. Jordan is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jordan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jordan has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jordan has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jordan constructed a picnic shelter at Mac Porter Park in Kearney, Missouri.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jordan Fotheringham for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. SHAWN CASEY, RECIPIENT OF THE 2014 FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK MAN OF THE YEAR AWARD
HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Dr. Shawn Casey, who will receive the 2014 Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Man of the Year Award on Monday, March 17, 2014. Dr. Casey was born in Pittston to Suzanne Walker Malloy and the late George T. Casey of Pittston. He graduated from Wyoming Area High School and Wilkes University, and studied Dentistry at the University of Pittsburgh. After graduation, Dr. Casey returned to the Pittston Area in 1994 to establish his dental practice.

In 2005, Dr. Casey founded Casey Dental, which now employs multiple dentists and specialists to provide comprehensive dental care in one location. Dr. Casey's office also accommodates Special Needs Dentistry for individuals with developmental disabilities, which he dedicated to his aunt, Mary Casey. Recently, Casey Dental expanded into Convention Hall in Pittston Township, where the brand new facility is equipped with 39 dentists and technicians to meet the growing need of patients in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Shawn is a board member of the Pennsylvania Academy of General Dentistry, a member of the American Dental Association, Academy of General Dentistry, and Gnathos Orthodontic. He is also an active member of local charities, church organizations, school districts, and public service organizations. In particular, Shawn takes great pride in his Irish heritage and has been an active member with the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick for over 20 years. He won the Swingle Award for community service in 2003, and previously served as

the President of the organization. He will also soon accept the organization's 2014 Man of the Year award.

Shawn now resides in Jenkins Township with his wife of 21 years, Michele, and their three children, George, Shawna, and Samantha. Since joining in 1992, Shawn now enjoys yearly banquets and introducing his son, George, to the Friendly Sons to carry on the Casey Tradition.

I proudly offer my congratulations to Dr. Casey for receiving this award from the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick. I applaud his commitment to providing dental care to Pennsylvanians, including those with special needs, and his lifetime of service to the Pittston area.

**A TRIBUTE TO BLAIRE LENNANE—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR**

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Blaire Lennane of Elysian Valley.

Since 2011, Ms. Lennane has been an unstoppable force in the Elysian Valley community. Especially dedicated to serving the area's youth, she is the Founding President of Partners of Dorris (POD). POD is a non-profit organization committed to supporting public education programs affected by budget cuts and the advancement of students at Dorris Place Elementary School. POD supports the school's teachers and contributes to the beautification and safety of Elysian Valley through outreach and volunteerism. A consummate organizer, Ms. Lennane has formed partnerships with local businesses, non-profit organizations, community groups, and corporations to generate funds and in-kind donations for the school. She spearheaded the complete makeover and re-opening of the school library, partnered with Home Depot to accomplish the leveling, re-building, and planting of the school garden and worked with Office Depot to provide supplies for the entire school.

Ms. Lennane's greatest achievement through POD is the Instrumental Music Program, where she partnered with the non-profit group Education Through Music-Los Angeles, to bring musical instrument instruction (violin, cello, ukulele, and recorder) to the school, as well as organized afterschool ensemble practice.

Ms. Lennane has founded and organized many events which have become beloved annual traditions highly anticipated by the community. Such events include the Training Day Fitness Fair & Walkathon, the Fine Arts Expo, and the Save the Music Program Fall Festival. Ms. Lennane is also active with the Elysian Valley Arts Collective, the Los Angeles City Parks Advisory Board for the Elysian Valley Recreation Center, and the Los Angeles Unified School District's Parent Community Advisory Committee. She sits on several commit-

tees for Dorris Place Elementary School. Ms. Lennane and her husband, Chad Gordon, have one daughter, Gala Lennane-Gordon.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Blaire Lennane.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, on the afternoon of March 13, 2014, I was attending a meeting at the White House to discuss a sensitive constituent issue and was absent for rollcall vote 126. Had I been present for rollcall vote 126, on passage of H. Res. 515, I would have voted "no."

**OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT**

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,491,372,091,598.45. We've added \$6,864,495,042,685.37 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$6.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

**CONGRATULATING CAMBRIA COUN-
TY ON ITS 210TH ANNIVERSARY**

HON. KEITH J. ROTHFUS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. ROTHFUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the residents of Cambria County, Pennsylvania, who celebrate the 210th anniversary of the County's founding on March 26, 2014. Cambria County is nestled in the Laurel Highlands of Western Pennsylvania and is home to many great hard working Americans.

On March 26, 1804, the Pennsylvania Assembly formed a new county from portions of Huntingdon, Somerset, and Bedford Counties. They named it Cambria, an old name for Wales. To determine the location of the county seat, Cambria County held a census. Because Ebensburg had the largest population of 150 to Johnstown's 60, it became the new county seat. Over two centuries later, Ebensburg remains the county seat.

Today, more than 140,000 Pennsylvanians call Cambria County home. It contains more than sixty-three municipalities including thirty-two boroughs, thirty townships, and the city of Johnstown. The county is home to leading hospitals, educational institutions, defense contractors, manufacturers, coal mines, and other businesses.

From Northern Cambria to Nanty Glo to Portage, Cambria County is blessed with

beautiful vistas. Visitors travel from all over to see the breathtaking view from the Johnstown Inclined Plane and the natural beauty of Prince Gallitzin State Forest and Laurel Ridge State Park.

Cambria County is also fortunate to have plentiful natural resources. Our hardworking men and women drove the steel industry that built our Nation and developed its abundant coal and natural gas. Today, many Cambria County residents continue to work in the steel and energy industries.

The county was the location of the Johnstown Flood, one of the worst natural disasters in our Nation's history. In the midst of great challenges, the people of Cambria have overcome and pressed on to build the vibrant community that we celebrate today.

Mr. Speaker, and fellow Members, please join me in congratulating Cambria County on the 210th anniversary of its founding.

**HONORING THE DIRECTOR OF THE
AIR FORCE SEXUAL ASSAULT
PREVENTION AND RESPONSE OF-
FICE, MAJOR GENERAL MAGGIE
H. WOODWARD**

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Major General Maggie H. Woodward, who is retiring after 31 years of faithful and distinguished service to her nation. Throughout her career, and especially as a senior officer, General Woodward has provided invaluable testimony, advice, and service to this body. Specifically and most recently, General Woodward provided updates and insight in relation to sexual assault in the military and on her progress in leading the fight against this scourge as Director of the new Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office.

Inspired by her grandfather, one of the United States' first military pilots, General Woodward sought to fly aircraft in defense of her nation. She entered the Air Force in 1983 as an ROTC graduate of Arizona State University. Over the course of her distinguished career, she commanded at the squadron, group, wing, and numbered Air Force levels, including Air Forces Africa in Germany and the 89th Airlift Wing at Andrews Air Force base, home of Air Force One.

General Woodward flew and commanded in Operations Just Cause, Northern and Southern Watch, Allied Force, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. Additionally, General Woodward served as Coalition Forces Air Component Commander during Operation Odyssey Dawn—the first female Component Commander in our nation's history. Her most lasting impact will be the momentum she provided in turning back the tide of sexual assault in our military; her compassion for victims, relentless pursuit of perpetrators, and dedication to reinforcing a climate of dignity and respect within the Air Force has set a new standard for military leaders everywhere. She retires as a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in multiple aircraft, and the respect of both military members and civilians alike.

For 31 years General Woodward has performed her job professionally, honestly, and

passionately. We will miss her leadership, courage, and dedication, and wish her all the best as she retires from active duty service to our great nation.

A TRIBUTE TO DRIAN JUAREZ—
28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT
WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Drian Juarez of Hollywood.

Born in Juarez, Mexico and raised by her grandmother, a five-year-old Ms. Juarez joined her mother in the United States after her grandmother's passing.

Ms. Juarez's artistic talents were noticed early on by many of her teachers. She entered a Los Angeles Times art contest, won, and was awarded with art lessons throughout middle school. With these art lessons, Ms. Juarez was able to build a portfolio and gain entry into the Los Angeles County High School for the Arts. Upon graduation, she was accepted to Otis College of Art and Design, where she attained a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art.

In 2005, Ms. Juarez was shot in the face at a Halloween event and lost sight in her right eye. After this tragic incident, Ms. Juarez decided to make a change in her life. For the first time, she connected with Los Angeles transgender support groups and increased her involvement in local events and activism. She became a member of the West Hollywood Transgender Task Force, which is now known as the West Hollywood Transgender Advisory Board, and also became a member of the Transgender Service Provider Network. In 2009, Ms. Juarez was invited to become a member of the Transgender Law Center's Transgender Leadership Council and the Transgender Economic Development Initiative.

For the past 6 years, Ms. Juarez has served as Program Manager of the Transgender Economic Empowerment Project (TEEP) at the Legal Services Department of the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center. She has demonstrated remarkable entrepreneurial skills and passion for empowering clients who are struggling with immigration, employment, and race issues due to their gender identity.

TEEP, in conjunction with Trans-Unity Pride, held its first job fair in 2008. Since then, TEEP has collaborated with the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce on a yearly job fair. As part of this job fair, Ms. Juarez has provided Gender and Sexual Diversity in the Workplace trainings to human resources professionals and employers. Ms. Juarez has presented over 400 transgender cultural competency trainings to thousands of people, including at conferences sponsored by the Transgender Service Provider Network and the HIV Drug & Alcohol Task Force, LA Youth at Work, the City of L.A. Career Fair, Women's Resource & Job Fair, Trans Action/Friends Community

Center, among others. In addition to all of her accomplishments, Ms. Juarez designed a plaque with an inscribed poem for the City of West Hollywood, which was dedicated in 2009 during the Transgender Day of Remembrance, a day to memorialize those who were killed due to anti-transgender hatred and prejudice.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Drian Juarez.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 117, I was unable to attend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE 2014 ACADEMY
NOMINEES OF THE 11TH CON-
GRESSIONAL DISTRICT OF NEW
JERSEY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, every year, more high school seniors from the 11th Congressional District trade in varsity jackets for navy pea coats, Air Force flight suits, and Army brass buckles than most other districts in the country. But this is nothing new—our area has repeatedly sent an above average portion of its sons and daughters to the nation's military academies for decades.

This fact should not come as a surprise. The educational excellence of area schools is well known and has long been a magnet for families looking for the best environment in which to raise their children. Our graduates are skilled not only in mathematics, science, and social studies, but also have solid backgrounds in sports, debate teams, and other extracurricular activities. This diverse upbringing makes military academy recruiters sit up and take note—indeed, many recruiters know our towns and schools by name.

Since the 1830's, Members of Congress have enjoyed meeting, talking with, and nominating these superb young people to our military academies. But how did this process evolve? In 1843, when West Point was the sole academy, Congress ratified the nominating process and became directly involved in the makeup of our military's leadership. This was not an act of an imperial Congress bent on controlling every aspect of Government. Rather, the procedure still used today was, and is, a further check and balance in our democracy. It was originally designed to weaken and divide political coloration in the officer corps, provide geographical balance to our armed services, and to make the officer corps more resilient to unfettered nepotism and handicapped European armies.

In 1854, Representative Gerritt Smith of New York added a new component to the academy nomination process—the academy review board. This was the first time a Member of Congress appointed prominent citizens

from his district to screen applicants and assist with the serious duty of nominating candidates for academy admission. Today, I am honored to continue this wise tradition in my service to the 11th Congressional District.

The Academy Review Board is composed of six local citizens who have shown exemplary service to New Jersey, to their communities, and to the continued excellence of education in our area—many are veterans. Though from diverse backgrounds and professions, they all share a common dedication that the best qualified and motivated graduates attend our academies. And, as true for most volunteer panels, their service goes largely unnoticed.

I would like to take a moment to recognize these men and women and thank them publicly for participating in this important panel. Being on the board requires hard work and an objective mind. Members have the responsibility of interviewing upwards of 50 outstanding high school seniors every year in the academy review process.

The nomination process follows a general timetable. High school seniors mail personal information directly to the Military Academy, the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, and the Merchant Marine Academy once they become interested in attending. Information includes academic achievement, college entry test scores, and other activities. At this time, they also inform my office of their desire to be nominated.

The academies then assess the applicants, rank them based on the data supplied, and return the files to my office with their notations. In late November, our Academy Review Board interviews all of the applicants over the course of 2 days. They assess a student's qualifications and analyze character, desire to serve, and other talents that may be hidden on paper.

This year the board interviewed over 40 applicants. The Board's recommendations were then forwarded to the academies by January 31, where recruiters reviewed files and notified applicants and my office of their final decision on admission.

As these highly motivated and talented young men and women go through the academy nominating process, never let us forget the sacrifice they are preparing to make: to defend our country and protect our citizens. This holds especially true at a time when our nation is fighting the war against terrorism. Whether it is in Afghanistan or other hot spots around the world, no doubt we are constantly reminded that wars are fought by the young. And, while our military missions are both important and dangerous, it is reassuring to know that we continue to put America's best and brightest in command.

ACADEMY NOMINEES FOR 2014, 11TH DISTRICT
CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

AIR FORCE ACADEMY

Justin M. Blumas, Roseland, West Essex H.S.

Jennifer E. Lam, Boonton, Air Force Academy Prep

Sean M. Lyons, Morristown, Morristown H.S.

Angela E. Martone, Lincoln Park, Trinity Christian H.S.

Michael J. Predojevic, Woodland Park, Passaic Valley H.S.

MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY

Justin C. Corio, Bloomfield, Bloomfield H.S.

Clay C. Dundas, Sparta, Massachusetts Maritime Academy

Zachery F. Flake, Denville, Morris Knolls H.S.
Seung H. Hwang, Wayne, Wayne Hills H.S.
Scott R. Johnston, Wayne, Wayne Valley H.S.
Tyler G. Macejka, Pompton Plains, Pequannock H.S.
Jennifer L. Pezzuti, Riverdale, Pompton Lakes H.S.

MILITARY ACADEMY

Chris-John H. Bosch, Wayne, Seton Hall Prep
Anthony Costagliola, Wayne, Wayne Hills H.S.
Michael T. Herbert, Whippany, New Mexico Military Institute
Daniel K. Iskander, Madison, Madison H.S.
Parker F. Meytrott, Montville, MAPS
Dylan V. Panicucci, Sparta, Sparta H.S.
John C. Phillips, Sparta, Blair Academy
Andrew S. Vena, Chatham, Chatham H.S.
Nicholas D. Wilde, Madison, Madison H.S.
Austin JC Williams, Verona, Verona H.S.

NAVAL ACADEMY

Joshua C. Corbett, Mendham, Gill St. Bernards
Patrick E. Dugan, Morristown, Oratory Prep
Jacob S. Ferraro, Kinnelon, Kinnelon H.S.
Jack W. Frey, Sparta, Pope John XIII H.S.
Nicholas R. Maletto, North Haledon, Pas-saic County Technical Institute
Michael B. Meisel, Sparta, Sparta H.S.
Nicholas A. Markferding, Florham Park, Seton Hall Prep
Michael E. McGlone, Boonton, Iona College
Dylan P. Pennell, West Orange, West Or-ange H.S.
Patrick K. Stanton, Hopatcong, Hopatcong H.S.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOSEPH J. JOYCE, JR., RECIPIENT OF 2014 THE FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in acknowledgment of Joseph J. Joyce, who will receive the Achievement Award from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on Monday, March 17, 2014. Joe is a graduate of St. John's High School, Pittston, Pennsylvania, and Luzerne County Community College, Nanticoke, Pennsylvania. He went on to major in Business Education & Accounting at Bloomsburg University.

In 1989, Joe became licensed in Property and Casualty, Life, Accident and Health insurance and joined Joyce Insurance Group. Today, he focuses his efforts on commercial insurance, overseeing the Commercial Lines Division and company-to-agency relations, specializing in governmental and self-funded entities.

Throughout his life, Joe has done charity work with several organizations. He is a member of St. John's Roman Catholic Church, Pittston, PA; the Jolly Boys Association, Avoca, Pennsylvania; the Greater Pittston Chamber of Commerce; the Avoca Lions Club, where he served as Secretary to the Board of Directors; and the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick, Greater Pittston Chapter, where he served as President and Treasurer. Among his many accomplishments, Joe was the 2012 recipient of the Friendly Sons of St. Patrick Swingle

Award, which honors a member for assisting and giving back to his community.

Currently, Joe resides in Hughestown with his wife Anna. They have raised five children: Joseph, John, Brent, Kahli and Aidan. They are also proud grandparents of four grandchildren: Annabel, Joey, Adeline, and Remy Mack Joyce.

I am proud to congratulate Mr. Joyce for receiving this acknowledgment from the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons, and for his many years of service to the Pittston Area.

HONORING PATRICK L. SULLIVAN ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT AS DIRECTOR OF THE CAPTAIN JAMES A. LOVELL FEDERAL HEALTH CARE CENTER

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today to honor Director Patrick L. Sullivan on the occasion of his retirement from the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Health Care Center in the suburban Chicago district that I represent.

In 2010, the nation's first integrated Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)—Department of Defense (DoD) federal health care center opened its doors with Pat Sullivan as Director. The Lovell Federal Health Care Center (FHCC) at Naval Station Great Lakes was the culmination of years of vision, planning and hard work. It was and is an example of excellence for all other VA and DoD health care facilities.

I am incredibly proud that Illinois's Tenth District is home to the Lovell FHCC and Naval Station Great Lakes, the Navy's only recruit training command. It's here that the Navy trains more than 40,000 new sailors each year. It's here that the nation's first integrated federal health care center was created. And it was here that Director Sullivan's leadership helped make the vision of an integrated health system a reality, raising the bar of achievement to new heights.

Director Sullivan has done a remarkable job leading an outstanding team of more than 3,000 dedicated professionals. His leadership, drive, determination and forward-thinking approach have been key to Lovell FHCC's success and will be sorely missed.

Serving veterans, active duty personnel, military families and recruits each year, the Lovell FHCC demonstrates an unwavering commitment to preparing warriors and caring for heroes.

Director Sullivan's accomplishments have laid the foundation for the care of many future generations of sailors, families and veterans. I want to personally thank Director Sullivan for everything he has done, and congratulate him at the successful completion of a distinguished career with the Lovell FHCC.

HONORING TYLER THORNE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Tyler Thorne. Tyler is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 135, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Tyler has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Tyler has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Tyler has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Tyler Thorne for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING THE LIFE AND DEDICATED SERVICE OF EVANGELIST STEVE HILL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and dedicated service of Evangelist Steve Hill, who passed away on March 9, 2014, after a courageous battle with melanoma. Pastor Hill served as a mentor and an inspiration to countless individuals. The loss of a devoted husband, father, and unparalleled servant of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is felt not only in Northwest Florida but throughout this great Nation and around the world.

Pastor Hill was born to a military family in 1954 in Ankara, Turkey. It was during his teen years, after his family moved to Huntsville, Alabama, where Pastor Hill felt the power of prayer for the first time more than ever. Though, this was only the beginning; Pastor Hill's love for God and helping others only grew.

Leaving behind a difficult past, Pastor Hill attended David Wilkerson's Twin Oaks Bible Academy located in Lindale, Texas. He met the love of his life there, the former Ms. Jeri Larson, and the two were married in 1979. Both began serving Christ through full-time ministry with Outreach Ministries of Alabama and then as youth pastors in Panama City and Tallahassee, Florida. Pastor Hill and his wife then felt the Lord's calling to serve His people abroad. Within seven years, they had managed to spread God's Word throughout South America and Europe, establishing ministries and churches.

In 1995, Pastor Hill touched the Northwest Florida community when he spoke at a revival at Brownsville Assembly of God in Pensacola, Florida. Following his sermon, what would become known as the Brownsville Revival was ignited, attracting millions of people from all over the world. Pastor Hill's ability to encourage and empower those seeking the Lord led

to one of the longest running church revivals throughout our Nation's history. Preaching four nights a week for five years during the revival and leading thousands of individuals to Christ, Pastor Hill was inspired to continue the revival around the world.

In 2003 and 2004, Pastor Hill established Heartland World Ministries Church and Heartland School of Ministry in Irving, Texas, where he served as the senior pastor up until 2012. Despite facing a difficult health battle, his passion and heart for helping others did not cease, and his service to Christ continued, as he ministered through his website, *ProdigalsOnly.com*; his writing; and television broadcasts.

For over three decades, Pastor Hill was deeply committed to spreading the word of the Lord and helping others find salvation. Northwest Florida and the countless individuals whose lives were touched by Steve Hill mourn the loss of an exceptional man of God.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to honor the service and contributions of Evangelist Steve Hill to the Northwest Florida community and around the world. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers to his wife, Jeri; son, Ryan; daughters, Shelby and Kelsey; and the entire Hill family and friends.

HOBBY LOBBY AND CONESTOGA WOOD SPECIALTIES CASES

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my concerns about two cases being argued before the Supreme Court this month, *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby Stores and Conestoga Wood Specialties v. Sebelius*. I am a strong supporter of our Constitution, which allows for religious liberty, but religious liberty does not include the right to impose your own religious beliefs on others. If Hobby Lobby CEO David Green opposes birth control, he's entitled to his opinion, but he is not entitled to impose his beliefs on others by deliberately refusing contraceptive coverage for his female employees. This coverage makes a difference, especially for women working in entry level positions that too often leave them below the poverty line. Women need to be able to make their own decisions about their reproductive health care without interference from their bosses. It is their right, and it should not be trampled upon.

SAMANTHA FLORES

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Samantha Flores for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Samantha Flores is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Flores is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Samantha Flores for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

A TRIBUTE TO RUTH WILLIAMS— 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Ruth Williams of West Hollywood.

Ms. Williams is one of the original founders of the City of West Hollywood. Incorporated in 1984, West Hollywood has been her home for over sixty years. Her history of activism and volunteerism in West Hollywood is astonishing. She has served as a member of the Eastside Redevelopment Project Area Committee since its inception, is a former board member of Good Neighbors, and has organized the annual Fourth of July Picnic and Holiday Food Drive for many years. With a strong commitment to public safety issues, Ms. Williams helped create the original Disaster Volunteer Core Committee, worked tirelessly with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department to create neighborhood watch groups, and served on West Hollywood's Public Safety Commission. Ms. Williams also founded Citizens for Seniors and helped draft West Hollywood's first rent control ordinance while serving on the City's Rent Stabilization Commission.

As Director of Advocacy at the National Council of Jewish Women/Los Angeles (NCJW/LA), Ms. Williams has firsthand knowledge of the need for providing social services in the community. She strives to educate the community about current issues such as child abuse, human trafficking, domestic violence, teen bullying, and human rights, as well as advocate for domestic violence shelter funding. Many of the NCJW/LA programs under Ms. Williams' leadership have received statewide and federal recognition.

In addition to Ms. Williams' work in the community and with NCJW/LA, she is also active in the Hollywood National Organization for Women, is a former Chair and life member of the Fairfax High School Alumni Association, current Vice Chair of the Fairfax Business Association, and is involved in various political organizations. Ms. Williams has received numerous awards, including the 2010 Los Angeles County Older American Recognition Day Award, a City of West Hollywood Senior Advi-

sory Board Award, and a city proclamation to recognize March 15, 2013 as "Ruth Williams Day" in honor of her 75th birthday.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Ruth Williams.

A TRIBUTE TO CHRISTY SCHILLING— 28TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT WOMAN OF THE YEAR

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 14, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Women's History Month. Each year, we pay special tribute to the contributions and sacrifices made by our nation's women. It is an honor to pay homage to outstanding women who are making a difference in my Congressional District. I would like to recognize a remarkable woman, Christy Schilling of Glendale.

Ms. Schilling grew up in Burbank and Glendale and graduated from Burbank High School in 1990. She went on to attend California State University, Northridge, where she majored in Sociology/Social Welfare. Ms. Schilling is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people living throughout the Los Angeles area. From childhood, Ms. Schilling has been concerned about those less fortunate than herself. She interned with the Haven Hills Domestic Violence Shelter, after completing her degree in 1995, working to improve the lives of battered women and their children. She not only counseled victims of domestic violence, but also counseled pregnant and parenting teens.

In addition to her other volunteer efforts for people, she is a fierce protector of and advocate for animals. As she started volunteering with different animal groups, her passion for animal welfare grew. She realized that by helping pets, she was helping people and the whole community. Ms. Schilling has been an avid animal welfare volunteer for more than 15 years, resulting in her founding of The Animal Protectorates (TAPS), a non-profit animal advocacy organization. Ms. Schilling is devoted to educating people about the importance of spaying and neutering their animals, adopting animals, and reducing euthanasia rates in shelters. TAPS is dedicated to protecting animals in every possible way, supports other organizations aligned with the TAPS mission, and advocates unity among animal welfare organizations. With its committed and enthusiastic team and Board of Directors, TAPS is making a tremendous and positive difference for thousands of animals.

Ms. Schilling is the voice of abused and helpless creatures, and her contributions are reaching far and wide. Her mission to eliminate the sale of puppy mill pets in Glendale culminated in 2012 when the Glendale City Council passed its ordinance eliminating the sale of all puppy mill animals in Glendale. With the passage of this ordinance, Ms. Schilling's attention turned to a similar draft of a puppy mill ordinance in the City of Burbank, and Burbank's City Council passed the ordinance as well.

Throughout the years, Ms. Schilling has been a selfless volunteer. Her volunteer activities have included fundraising for the YMCA

child care programs and capital campaigns, Christmas in April home improvement projects for low income families, and planting seedlings with underprivileged children at Tree People. Her current volunteer activities include working

with a local guild of Children's Hospital Los Angeles, and regularly donating blood at the Glendale American Red Cross. Ms. Schilling and her husband, Craig Schilling, live in Glendale.

I ask all Members to join me in honoring an exceptional woman of California's 28th Congressional District, Christy Schilling.